

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## NELSON P. COHEN UNITED STATES ATTORNEY DISTRICT OF ALASKA

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## ANCHORAGE MAN PLEADS GUILTY IN FEDERAL COURT TO DRUG DISTRIBUTION CHARGES

Anchorage, Alaska – United States Attorney Nelson P. Cohen announced that on June 23, 2008, Theophilves Robert Johnson, a resident of Anchorage, Alaska, pleaded guilty in federal court in Anchorage, to a three-count indictment charging distribution of controlled substances.

Johnson, age 26, pleaded guilty to three counts of distribution of cocaine base, or "crack," before United States District Court Judge Ralph R. Beistline.

In connection with the guilty plea, Special Assistant United States Attorney Erin White advised the court that on three separate occasions, the defendant sold crack cocaine to a government informant. The total amount of crack distributed by the defendant was 11.7 grams.

Judge Beistline announced that sentencing will take place on September 5, 2008, at 9:00 a.m. The law provides for a maximum total sentence per count of 20 years in prison, a fine of \$250,000, or both. Under the Advisory Federal Sentencing Guidelines, the actual sentence imposed is based upon the seriousness of the offense and the criminal history, if any, of the defendant.

Johnson continues to remain in custody pending sentencing.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation Safe Streets Task Force, comprised of Anchorage police officers and FBI agents, conducted the investigation leading to the conviction in this case. SAUSA White is one of two prosecutors in the U.S. Attorney's Office who are funded by the Municipality of Anchorage for the purpose of prosecuting gang-related and violent crime cases.

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